



Office of Inspector General
U.S. Department of State
and the
Broadcasting Board of Governors

MONTHLY REPORT OF **ACTIVITIES**

audits, inspections, testimony, and special activities

August 2000

This report describes testimony provided by the Inspector General or other OIG officials and lists OIG reports issued during the period indicated. This report includes unclassified summaries of classified reports; all text in this report is unclassified. Classified reports are not distributed publicly. On occasion, OIG distributes an unclassified version of a classified report; in such a case, this listing also indicates the issued date of the original report. In addition, all major reports, together with OIG investigative activities are summarized in the Inspector General's semiannual reports to the Congress, which are publicly available every June and December.

Congressional and Outreach Activities

There is no activity to report for August.

Reports Issued by the Office of Audits

The Office of Audits has nothing to report for August.

Reports Issued by the Office of Inspections

Inspection of the U.S. Mission to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (USOSCE) (ISP/I-00-16)

The Mission is effectively engaged in reshaping the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) from a deliberative forum into an operational organization. U.S. dominance, however, could undermine OSCE's effectiveness as an instrument of U.S. policy. Mission interagency cooperation is good, presenting an integrated diplomatic and military perspective. While it effectively represents American interests to the OSCE, the Mission's internal leadership is weak, focusing on policy objectives to the detriment of staff and resource management. As OSCE field missions in the Balkans and other areas dramatically increase, the Mission's preoccupation in staffing them with Americans rises. This function should not be assigned to the political section. Officers competent to do these tasks should be assigned to the Mission and management of general field mission staff recruitment should be out-sourced. The Mission, like other U.S. entities in Vienna, works on law enforcement activities that should be better coordinated. The Joint Administrative Office effectively supports all three missions in Vienna. For USOSCE, the main target is obtaining more suitable office space.

Inspection of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations Organization in Vienna, Austria (UNVIE) (ISP/I-00-17)

The Ambassador focuses on nuclear issues to the virtual exclusion of narcotics and crime control. Overall Mission leadership needs strengthening. Policy issues engross most supervisors, leaving them little time for developing subordinates. This results in internal tension that potentially may interfere with achieving policy goals. The Mission strongly represents U.S. nonproliferation interests on a strengthened nuclear safeguards regime designed to locate materials deliberately diverted from peaceful use. Department policy instructions to the Mission on funding the International Atomic Energy Agency are inconsistent. Though the Senate rejected U.S. participation in the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, the U.S. has strong interest in continuing development of verification standards. The Mission advocates related positions such as establishment of worldwide monitoring stations capable of detecting nuclear detonations. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency consolidation into the State Department went smoothly. To properly support the Mission, the new Bureau of Verification and

Compliance and the Bureau of Arms Control must closely coordinate clear lines of authority. Joint Administrative Office functions effectively support all three missions in Vienna. Specifically, action to fulfill UNVIE's greatest requirement – relocating to a site near its international organization interlocutors – is close to resolution.

Inspection of Embassy Vienna and Consular Agency Salzburg (ISP/I-00-18)

U.S. policies, reacting to rightist Austrian Freedom Party participation in the current government, limit U.S. influence in Austria. While the Embassy assesses that government's performance, the larger agenda is in abeyance. Senior national employees in some Embassy sections operate without sufficient American supervision. The Embassy misgauged popular dissatisfaction with the *status quo* before the 1999 election and did not foresee the Freedom Party's inclusion in the new government. It responded well to the surge in demand for political reporting following the election. All three U.S. missions in Vienna work on a wide variety of law enforcement related activities but they do not fully coordinate operations. The Joint Administrative Office effectively supports all three missions in Vienna, though a \$4 million building maintenance backlog clouds the horizon. Coordination of former USIS and Embassy undertakings requires more effort, especially in information technology applications. The reclassification workload associated with State-USIA consolidation offered the personnel section a huge task which it nonetheless completed ahead of schedule. The Embassy developed a best practice in forming a team to proactively review administrative operations to seek efficiencies and improve service quality. Success to date includes streamlining the motor pool and outsourcing expendable supply operations.

IBB Technical Monitoring Office in Vienna, Austria (ISP/I-00-19)

Embassy Vienna hosts the International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB) Technical Monitoring Office, one of the U.S. Government's several regional operations located in Vienna and staffed by two local employees. The operation appears to be efficient, the staff competent, morale high, and relations with the Embassy excellent. The monitoring office checks on broadcasts to Europe, including Russia, and to Africa and the Middle East up to and including India. The operation uses automatic remote monitoring systems based in 14 different locations throughout these regions and functions 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The inspection made one recommendation concerning management of the certification of the time and attendance of the employees. The current approach is not appropriate.

Inspection of the Regional Program Office (RPO), Vienna, Austria, June 2000 (ISP/I-00-20)

August 2000

The Regional Program Office (RPO) provides a range of excellent services in a timely and valuable way to posts with urgent program and administrative needs. Several management issues should be addressed by both the RPO and the Bureau for European Affairs (EUR). EUR recently determined that supervisory authority over RPO Vienna would reside with its regional support operation in Frankfurt, Germany, now under the leadership of a new EUR deputy executive director resident in Frankfurt. At the time of the inspection the new supervisory structure was not yet in place, and the inspectors recommended that all long term resource commitments, such as adding personnel, be postponed until the new deputy executive director could review the RPO operation in person and make determinations as to the full role of the Vienna operation in relation to the services made available in Frankfurt.

Reports Issued by the Office of Security and Intelligence Oversight

During this reporting period, security inspections were conducted of Embassy Algiers, Algeria; the BBG Relay Station, Kavala, Greece; and Use of Tones with the Selectone Emergency Notification System. In addition, a Report on the Department's Counterintelligence Program was completed.